

Andrew F. Scott House  
126 North Tenth Street  
Richmond  
Wayne County  
Indiana

HABS No. IN-145

HABS  
IND,  
89-RICH,  
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. IN-145

HABS  
IND.  
89-RICH.  
4-

ANDREW F. SCOTT HOUSE

Location: 126 North Tenth Street, Richmond, Wayne County,  
Indiana.

USGS Richmond Quadrangle; Universal Transverse  
Mercator Coordinates: 16.680620.4410960.

Present Owner  
and Occupant: Andrew and Martha Ruthe Scott. (1974)

Present Use: Residence.

Statement of  
Significance: The Andrew F. Scott house was built in 1858, and is a good example of a mid-19th century house designed in the Italian Villa style. Distinguished by a central projecting pedimented pavilion on the symmetrical three-bay facade and an elaborate roof top cupola, the rectilinear main block is trimmed with a first-story veranda, a pedimented recessed main entry, and deep bracketed projecting eaves. The Scott house has been in the Scott family since its erection in 1858. It was built for Andrew F. Scott, a leading banker and Democrat in Wayne County during the mid-19th century. Scott was an incorporator and the first president of the Second National Bank of Richmond. His grandson, Francis A. MacNutt, lived with his grandparents as a child, and wrote a detailed and vivid description of the house as it appeared in the 19th century, which stands as one of the most valuable historical records of the house today. MacNutt became a diplomat with the U.S. Legation in Constantinople, and later a Papal Chamberlain in Poland. Three generations after the house was first occupied, it remains the home of members of the Scott family.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1858. Miss Martha R. Scott, the present owner and occupant, states that her grandfather erected the house in 1858 upon this lot which he had acquired in 1855.

2. Architect: No information available.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Lot Number 159, the land upon which the Scott house stands, together with Lot Number 160, were acquired by Andrew F. Scott in 1855 for \$1400. The property remained within the Scott family since that time.
4. Original plan and construction: In 1927 Francis A. MacNutt, one of Scott's grandsons, wrote in his autobiography, Six Decades of My Life, a vivid and detailed description of the Scott house as it appeared when he lived there as a young boy during the late 19th century.

"My grandfather's house was typical of its period; built of brick, painted dark red, picked out with white tracings, the windows furnished with dark green, slatted blinds, it resembled a dozen others in the county. A central hall ran through the middle of the house from which the rooms opened to the right and left. The front entrance was approached by five granite steps leading to a shallow vestibule, flanked by covered verandas. Similar verandas were built on the north and south sides, and another, covered with lattice work, ran along the side of the kitchen wing at the back. It was two stories in height and was surmounted by a square cupola, which we called the 'observatory,' rising above the centre of the roof. . . .

It stood somewhat back from the street, and on the south side there was a garden in which grew an unusual variety of well-selected handsome trees. . . . The flower garden, which was my grandmother's particular province, was divided from the fruit garden by an arbour overgrown with Black Concord and Delaware grape vines.

There were perhaps a dozen such places in Richmond, and they were the characteristic dwellings of the richer and superior families of the place; they were considered to be spacious and imposing, and were mentioned with visible satisfaction by humbler citizens as mansions. They were certainly very comfortable and possessed an air of what, for want of a better term, I just call gentility, obsolete as the word has become.

The interior of my grandfather's house differed in no essential respect from others of its class. Certain features in their furnishings were common to all of them. Velvet carpets of rather gorgeous designs, covered the floors of the best rooms; they were very expensive and lasted forever. French gilt clocks surmounted by figures, stood under bell-shaped glass shades upon mantel-pieces of white or variegated marble. Gilt-framed pier glasses were placed between windows, which were heavily draped with curtains, usually of brocatelle, under which white lace hangings were

visible. The furniture of rosewood or mahogany was in sets, each room being provided with six chairs, two arm chairs, a rocker and a sofa, while upon the marble centre table there lay gilded albums and decorative books that were not meant to be opened, much less read.

The front room to the right of the hall of our house was called the library, because it had a bookcase built into the wall on one side. . . . The walls of this room were covered with a French grey paper upon which were stiff bunches of conventional flowers in raised gilt; the carpet was cream colour powdered over with very large roses in shades of red, and the curtains were of red and gold brocatelle. From the ceiling there hung a bronze chandelier upon whose branches perched gilt cupids holding musical instruments. . . . Needless to say, this room never served as a library for anybody, and the sets of books bound in red morocco with staring gilt letters, reposed unmolested behind the red silk curtains of their shelves.

Opposite this room was the drawing room, or parlour, as it was commonly termed. During the early part of my life this room was for me the synonym of magnificance. The ceiling was enriched by a stucco cornice and heavy centre-piece, from which hung a still more elaborate chandelier than the one across the hall. The curtains were of sumptuous blue and gold brocatelle, as was the covering of the furniture. There was a tall pier glass magnifying the dimensions and multiplying the ornamental features, which consisted of the indispensable fift clock, tall vases of flowered French porcelain and solemn, gilt framed portraits of General and Madame Washington. The dark blue velvet carpet was strewn with flowers of vast size and incomparable richness, and the furniture of rosewood, a faux of Louis XV in style, represented the labour of years by a Swiss cabinet maker called Anton Egli.

Back of the library was the dining-room, really the living-room of the house; it was of largish dimensions, with one north and one west window. The walls were covered with a dark-green velvet paper, and the furniture was a dark yellowish wood, the principal piece being a rather massive side-board with bunches of carved fruit on its panels and a central mirror surrounded by brackets, upon which stood pieces of old-fashioned glass and silver-ware. But for the west window, through which the afternoon sun streamed, it would have been a gloomy room; next to it, forming the south-west corner of the house, was my grandfather's room, from which a door led on to the south side veranda and into the garden."

B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

Andrew F. Scott was a leading banker and Democrat in Wayne County during the mid-nineteenth century. He was born on December 28, 1811 in Rockbridge, Virginia. At the age of twenty-two, Scott moved to Richmond, Indiana. He worked as a school

teacher, a clerk in the post office, land office at Fort Wayne, a dry good house, and a clerk with a steamboat company in Cincinnati. In 1851 he was elected the clerk of Wayne County, an office which he held until 1860. Working at a variety of finance-related jobs during the 1860s, he entered the wholesale grocery house of Forkner & Elmer in 1867, thereby establishing the firm of Forkner, Scott & Elmer. In 1872, Scott helped to organize the Second National Bank of Richmond, and was elected the bank's first president. Scott also had investments in real estate throughout the city of Richmond.

Scott's biographer wrote of him in the Encyclopedia of Biography of Indiana (1895): "Though a business man of large foresight and superior ability; though connected with several different kinds of business at the same time and making all of them successful, he has not given his entire time or his whole thought to business affairs. He has taken active interest in public matters concerning the welfare of the people and prosperity of the city. Mr. Scott is a financier. He has been successful in every business undertaking and has never indulged in speculation."

His grandson, Francis A. MacNutt, spoke of his grandfather with equally high respect and admiration: "My grandfather was a man of such rare probity and high standards in all his relations with people about him that he enjoyed the respect and won the regard of even those who execrated his political openings. His manners were uniformly urbane and simple; though he invited confidence, he repelled familiarity, and I think he was a man with whom nobody ever thought of taking a liberty. Under his apparent gentleness, there lay a strong will and tenacity of purpose that amazed any who inadvertently ran foul of his convictions and decisions. . . . Never have I known anyone so indifferent to, so quietly defiant of public opinion."

Andrew Scott and Martha Jane McGlathary of Philadelphia were married in 1839. They had four children, Letitia, John, Augustus and Mary. In 1859, Letitia married Joseph MacNutt, and she died in 1863 giving birth to their son Francis (Frank) Augustus MacNutt. Frank lived with his grandparents in the family home during his childhood. He attended Phillips Exeter Academy in preparation to going to Harvard College to complete his college education. After his graduation from Harvard in the 1870s, MacNutt traveled to Mexico, and while there was received into the Roman Catholic Church. As a devout Presbyterian, his grandfather Andrew Scott sharply disagreed with his grandson's joining the Catholic Church, and secured for him a post as the first secretary of the U.S. Legation in Constantinople in 1883, in an effort to dissuade MacNutt from his desired future plan. However, upon his release from the diplomatic service, MacNutt

went to Rome and was admitted to the Papal Household. He became a special envoy to Poland in the late 1880s, where he soon became a Papal Chamberlain. Francis MacNutt died in 1927 after a long and fruitful life in the Catholic Church.

The present owners, Andrew F. and Martha Ruthe Scott, are the son and daughter of Andrew's son Augustus and Rachel Brown Scott. They are the third generation who has lived in the Scott home.

C. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Wayne County Deed Records, Office of the Recorder, Wayne County Courthouse, Richmond.

2. Published and secondary sources:

Encyclopedia of Biography of Indiana. Indianapolis, 1895, pp. 155-56.

History of Wayne County, II. Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1884, pp. 75, 227-28.

MacNutt, Francis A. Six Decades of My Life. 2 vols. Bixen, Indiana, 1927.

Young, A. History of Wayne County. Indianapolis, 1872.

Prepared by Robert Brueggmann  
Team Historian  
Historic American  
Buildings Survey  
Summer 1974

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The structure's symmetrical three-bay front is dominated by a central projecting pedimented pavilion and an elaborately trimmed roof top cupola. The rectilinear main block is constructed of brick and fronted at the first story with a veranda supported by wooden openwork posts and a recessed main entrance framed by a pedimented cornice and engaged columns. Deep bracketed eaves define the wide hip roof overhang.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

- B. Description of Exterior: The two-story brick structure is cubical in shape with a projecting pedimented pavilion at the center of the three-bay front and a kitchen ell at the rear. The recessed main entrance is framed by engaged square carved columns and a projecting pedimented cornice. Flanking the central pavilion on the first level is a veranda supported by slender wooden openwork posts, which form arched openings. A wide segmental-arched window is above the doorway at the second story. The hip roof extends beyond the exterior wall, creating a deep cornice supported by decorative brackets. Crowning the roof at center is an elaborate square cupola with three narrow arched windows piercing each side and topped by a bracketed hip roof, identical to the principal roof design.
- C. Description of Interior: The interior of the main block is cubical and arranged on a central hall plan with four corner rooms. On the first floor, the library, trimmed with built-in walnut bookcases, a marble fireplace, and a carved plaster ceiling medallion from which a gas chandelier hangs, and the main parlor, also trimmed with a plaster ceiling medallion and chandelier (the fireplace has been removed) are at the house's front. The rear rooms, the dining room and a bedroom, are less formal in appearance. A grained walnut china cupboard is built into the dining room wall. All the original furniture for these rooms, designed by locally prominent 19th century interior decorator Anton Egli, is in place. The kitchen is connected to the rear of the main block. A front and back stairway lead to the second floor, which is also laid out on a central hall plan. The front stairway is trimmed with a carved newel post and balusters. Two large bedrooms and two smaller rooms are on the second floor.
- D. Site: The Scott house stands on the corner lot of North Tenth Street, and is surrounded by much of the original yard and gardens.

### PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. The project was completed in the summer of 1974 under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; and Associate Professor Mort Karp of the University of Arkansas, Project Supervisor; with Architect Harry Hunderman (University of Michigan); and student assistant architects Scott Barnard (University of Pennsylvania), Mark Hall (Pennsylvania State University), and Richard Perlmutter (Yale University); and architectural historian Robert Bruegmann (University of Pennsylvania) at the HABS Field Office at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana. Photographs were taken by HABS staff photographer Jack E. Boucher in January 1975. The written historical and architectural data was edited and in some cases expanded upon in the HABS Washington office in April 1979 by staff historian Jan E. Cigliano.

ADDENDUM TO  
ANDREW SCOTT HOUSE  
126 North Tenth Street  
Richmond  
Wayne Coyunty  
Indiana

HABS No. IN-145

HABS  
IND,  
89-RICH,  
4-

XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013